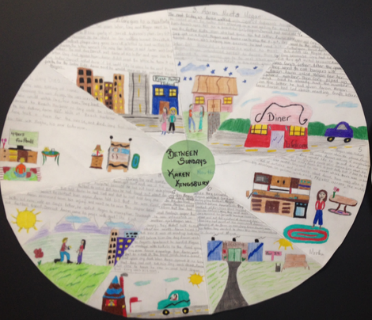
**Visualizing Strategy**

# http://bestclipartblog.com/clipart-pics/camera-clip-art-1.pngClick – Take a Picture

During the reading of a text, plan pause points for students to “click” a picture in their mind and do a turn and talk or table talk to share what pictures they have in their mind at that point. Have the students discuss how and why they thought those particular visualizations came to mind.

# **Story Wheels**

You could take this one step further and have the students mentally “click” several images from the story and create a story wheel from those images. In this way you are helping the students to realize that many of the reading strategies (in this case summarizing and visualizing) work together in heightened understanding of the text.

Story Wheel is a reading activity designed to help students practice sequencing skills, summarizing a story, visualizing story elements, and recognizing story structure. It can be used at any grade level and can be adapted for Social Studies or Science text.

**Directions:**

* Trace a LARGE (3 feet in diameter) circle with chalk and a chalkboard compass onto colored butcher paper. Cut it out and fold it to make the desired number of segments (pie pieces). Also cut a small circle (6 inches in diameter) from some of the scrap.
* Trace another circle (2.5 feet in diameter) with chalk and a chalkboard compass onto white butcher paper. Cut it out and fold it into the same number of segments. Cut apart the segments.
* As the students work on their assigned reading, have them “click” a picture at several (3 or more – the number of segments you have) pause points throughout the story. These images are drawn on the white paper segments, leaving a space at the widest portion for a brief written explanation of their drawing.
* Once their “clicked” images are drawn, have them write a brief description on the white paper segments, across the widest portion. Make sure they place a number in front of each sentence, indicating the order of the events.
* When all written work and illustrations are completed, the students glue the white pieces onto the large colored circle, centering the white piece on the colored segment.
* Write the title and author on the small 6 inch circle and glue in onto the center of the wheel, over the white pieces' points.
* Have student share their Story Wheel with the whole class or in small groups. They will be amazed at the diversity of the mental images drawn. This allows for a wonderful discussion of interpretation and how background schema influences what we visualize.
* These make wonderful displays for open houses, parent conferences, special luncheons, or whenever visitors are expected in your building.
* **Note:** the story wheel can be smaller if you wish, depending on the number of segments you have.